

**ABSTRACT**

There is described an image-processing method for applying a predetermined image processing to image signals, to output processed image signals. The method includes the steps of: applying a first processing for increasing a signal intensity deviation to a first-objective pixel, which is included in objective pixels having a spatial frequency in a range of 1.5 - 3.0 lines/mm, and whose signal intensity deviation is in a range of 30 - 60% of a maximum signal intensity deviation; and applying a second processing for decreasing the signal intensity deviation or keeping the signal intensity deviation as it is to a second-objective pixel, which is included in objective pixels having a spatial frequency in a range of 0.7 - 3.0 lines/mm, and whose signal intensity deviation is in a range of 0 - 6% of the maximum signal intensity deviation. The first processing includes a sharpness-enhancement processing, while the second processing includes a noise-reduction processing.